



## **Brownfields and Housing Report Now Available**

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) recently published *Coordinating Brownfields Redevelopment and Local Housing Initiatives*, a new report on the potential for redeveloping brownfields for residential reuse. The findings of the report can help local governments evaluate whether the redevelopment of a brownfields property into residential use is appropriate for the community or the site, and identify the ways in which such a project can be planned and implemented successfully. The report also includes information and case studies on various brownfields-to-housing projects, the benefits and opportunities of residential reuses, as well as some of the public policy criticisms that brownfields-housing projects may face.

Integrating housing into a brownfields redevelopment project can enable a local government to coordinate and bolster environmental, economic, and social initiatives. Redevelopment that includes housing is likely to spur additional investments on adjacent sites as businesses, such as restaurants and shops, crop up to serve the new residential population. Residential reuses of brownfields can also yield unique developments through the adaptive reuse of existing structures or the implementation of innovative design and planning concepts. In addition, brownfields-to-housing projects in center cities can help curb suburban sprawl and utilize existing infrastructure.

The report describes some of the key issues that local governments should consider when coordinating brownfields redevelopment efforts with housing, and provides local governments with information to aid in decision-making and address the questions:

- How can brownfields redevelopment for residential reuse be coordinated with other local initiatives to compound public benefit?
- What are the challenges specific to coordinating brownfields redevelopment with residential use?
- What is it about a brownfields site that influences the specific type of residential use developed?
- What are the primary roles, issues, and concerns of the different stakeholder groups involved in brownfields-to-housing projects, and how can they be coordinated?
- What are some of the creative and innovative projects being developed at brownfields sites?
- What have been some of the public policy debates about brownfields-to-housing projects?
- What are the strategies, essential tools, and best practices to implement when fostering new residential development through brownfields redevelopment?

To view the report, go to <http://www.brownfieldsource.org/files/pBF%20and%20housing3.pdf>.